PROFESSOR SATISH CHANDRA

Professor Satish Chandra was born on August 18, 1934, in Baghra, U.P. India. He obtained a B.Sc. from Agra University in 1953, a B.E. (Civil) from University of Roorkee in 1957, a Diploma in Hydraulic Engineering in 1959 from International Institute of Hydraulic Engineering in Delft in The Netherlands, and a Ph.D in Hydrology from University of Roorkee in 1968. After a year of research in soil engineering from 1957 to 1958 at U.P. Irrigation Research Institute in Roorkee, he joined University of Roorkee as Lecturer in Civil Engineering in 1958, and taught courses and conducted research in water resources engineering. In 1963, he was promoted to Reader and in 1972 to Associate Professor, and in 1974 to Professor. From 1972 to 1984, he taught postgraduate courses in hydrology, conducted research in hydrology and water resources, and coordinated activities of then School of Hydrology. During his tenure at University of Rooorkee, he was instrumental in initiating hydrologic research and development of the UNESCO-sponsored postgraduate course in hydrology and eventually the School of Hydrology at Roorkee. The School has trained hundreds of engineers in hydrology from India and developing countries of Asia and Africa. In 1984, Professor Chandra assumed the Directorship of the National Institute of Hydrology (NIH) and remained in that position until August 1993 when he took the voluntary retirement. During his 9 years of reign at NIH, the Institute experienced phenomenal growth both horizontally and vertically. Its scientific staff more than quadrupled and its expansion gave birth to five regional centres. Much of the credit for this unprecedented growth goes to Professor Chandra's dynamic leadership, and unswerving commitment to advancement of hydrology in India. The NIH and its regional centres are playing a vital role in promoting hydrology and water resources in India through research, technology transfer, and consulting services. In future they are expected to play even a greater role in water resources development in India.

During his long and distinguished career, he made many important scientific contributions in surface and groundwater hydrology, nuclear and isotope hydrology, environmental hydrology, remote sensing applications in hydrology, and hydrologic instrumentation. He authored/coauthored more than 150 papers published in national and international journals, and conference proceedings. He guided more than 70 Master's thesis and 10 Ph.D. dissertations.

Throughout his career, he displayed a high level of commitment to advancement of engineering

profession in general and hydrology in particular. This is exemplified by his election and service as President, Institution of Engineers (India) from 1987-88; President, Federation of Engineering Institutions of South Central Asia from 1987-89; President, Indian Association of Hydrologists from 1989-present; Council Member, Indian National Academy of Engineering from 1987-90; and National Representative, International Association of Hydrological Sciences. He served as a member of several national committees devoted to hydrology and water resources, including Planning Commission Committees for Assessment of Water Resources of Southern Tributaries of Yamuna and their utilization (1978-1980), and for Assessment of Water Resources of Rivers flowing into Arabian Sea and their utilization (1978-1982), Task Force on Water Resources (1984), and Indian National Committee on Hydrology (1984-present). He is a member, life member, or fellow of 10 national and international professional associations. He served on a number of UNESCO and/or WMO working groups on hydrological education and training. He organized and was instrumental in organization of 8 national and international conferences/symposia in the area of hydrology and water resources. He served on numerous advisory committees, chaired several sessions, and delivered keynote addresses at a number of such conferences. He served as a UNESCO consultant to Governments of Afghanistan, Thailand, and Uganda. He also guided a number of consultancy and research projects on a range of problems in hydrology and water resources. In addition to his professional accomplishments, Professor Chandra is known for his warmth, humor, and thoughtful consideration of others.



Professor Satish Chandra (1934 - present)